

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 03620 071508Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W
-----071936Z 056885 /47

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3162
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USUN NEW YORK 3077

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNIDO, PFOR, USUN, VT
SUBJ: HOLY SEE AND UNIDO

FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE

REF: ROME 3565, STATE 046528

FOLLOWING ARE ADDITIONAL VATICAN VIEWS RE UNIDO
AS CONVEYED TO US IN LETTER FROM VATICAN SUBSTITUTE
SECRETARY OF STATE BENELLI.
QUOTE PRO MEMORIA

IT IS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE HOLY SEE THAT THE GOVERN-
MENT OF THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT FAVOR A SPECIFIC GRANT OF
OBSERVER STATUS TO THE HOLY SEE IN THE CONSTITUTION OF UNIDO
BECAUSE IT MIGHT RESULT IN SIMILAR EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF OTHER
ENTITIES.

THE HOLY SEE'S DELEGATION AT THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO DRAW UP A CONSTITUTION FOR UNIDO
AS SPECIALIZED AGENCY HAS CLEARLY STATED THAT THE HOLY SEE WISHES
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PAGE 02 ROME 03620 071508Z

TO OBTAIN A LEGAL BASIS WHICH PERMITS ITS CONTINUOUS PARTICI-
PATION IN THE AFFAIRS OF UNIDO AND WHICH FULLY CORRESPONDS TO
ITS SPECIAL MISSION IN THE WORLD. THE HOLY SEE WISHES THEREFORE
AN EXPLICIT RECOGNITION OF ITS OBSERVER STATUS TO BE ADOPTED
IN THE UNIDO CONSTITUTION.

IN THIS, THE HOLY SEE BASES ITS POSITION ON ITS SPECIAL
NATURE AND TRADITIONAL STATUS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. THE MAIN POINT OF ITS REASONING IS THE CONVICTION THAT THE HOLY SEE HAS AN UNIQUE POSITION IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, IT BEING AN INTERNATIONAL ENTITY "SUI GENERIS" AS A UNIVERSAL BODY THE SOLE AIM OF WHICH IS MORAL AND SPIRITUAL IN NATURE. THE OBJECTIVE SITUATION OF THE HOLY SEE IS SUCH THAT IT DIFFERS FROM THAT OF ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION THAT IS OR COULD BE REPRESENTED AT INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.

REGARDING THE CONCERN WHICH HAS BEEN EXPRESSED THAT EXPLICIT MENTION OF OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE HOLY SEE IN THE NEW UNIDO CONSTITUTION MIGHT GIVE RISE TO CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES AND MIGHT PROVIDE A PRECEDENT FOR SIMILAR DEMANDS FROM OTHER ENTITIES, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE CASE OF THE HOLY SEE COULD EASILY REMAIN AN ISOLATED ONE IF A FORMULA WERE DIVISED WHICH APPLIED TO IT ALONG BY REFERRING EXPLICITLY TO ITS SPECIAL NATURE. NO OTHER INTERNATIONAL ENTITY IS ENDOWED WITH THE SAME CHARACTERISTICS WHICH COULD BE INVOKED IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A SIMILAR CONSTITUTIONAL FORMULA AS THAT WHICH THE HOLY SEE CURRENTLY FAVORS. UNQUOTE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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